

CONFIDENTIAL PTO0607

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ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	DINT-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-00	VCE-00
	AC-01	NEA-00	NSAE-00	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00
	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/005W

-----9B50FE 061304Z /38

FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7559
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L HARARE 006229

SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR GAYLE SMITH

LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

BRUSSELS FOR HINSON-JONES

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/06/00
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SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE OPENS AN EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR TOM MCDONALD FOR REASONS 1.5
(B) AND (D) .

1. (C) EGYPTIAN EMBASSY COUNSELLOR (DCM) KADRI ABDEL-MOTTALEB TOLD DCM NOVEMBER 4 THAT ZIMBABWE HAS OPENED AN EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI. THE AMBASSADOR, JOHN MVUNDURA, LEFT IN EARLY OCTOBER TO ASSUME CHARGE. THE REMAINING 2-3 MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF FLEW TO TRIPOLI VIA CAIRO TWO WEEKS LATER, CITING LACK OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AS THE CAUSE OF DELAY IN THEIR TRAVEL.

2. (C) COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT, EVEN IN AN ERA OF EXTREMELY SCARCE FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND TIGHT BUDGETS, WITH DIPLOMATS ABROAD GOING UNPAID FOR MONTHS AT A TIME OR FINDING THEMSELVES STRANDED AT THE END OF THEIR TOURS, ZIMBABWE VALUES ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH COLONEL QADHAFI OVER OTHER, MORE PRESSING SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEMANDS. WE SUSPECT THE LIBYAN HEAD OF STATE EITHER GIFTED OR LOANED THE ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT THE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTIES WHERE ITS CHANCERY AND AMBASSADOR ARE HOUSED. END COMMENT.

MCDONALD

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